

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 WARSAW 04111 161532Z

50

ACTION EUR-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-05 H-03 SS-20 NSC-07 EURE-00 M-02

A-01 /045 W

----- 003599

P R 161430Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0055

UNCLAS WARSAW 4111

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: KRAKOW OPENING

USIA FOR IEE

FOLLOWING IS PROPOSED TEXT OF SPEECH BY SENATOR TOWER AT KRAKOW
OPENING: MR. MINISTER, MR. AMBASSADOR, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS:

I AM HONORED TO REPRESENT PRESIDENT NIXON AT THE OPENING OF THE
NEW AMERICAN CONSULATE IN KRAKOW. THIS CITY, THIS REGION, AND ITS
PEOPLE OCCUPY A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP TO THE HISTORY AND THE IDEALS
OF OUR OWN COUNTRY. THIS IS THE HOMELAND OF MOST OF THE POLISH
EMIGRANTS WHO WENT TO THE UNITED STATES DURING THE LAST CENTURY
AND THE FIRST DECADES OF THIS CENTURY. THESE PEOPLE MADE A GREAT
CONTRIBUTION TO THE BUILDING OF THE AMERICAN NATION. MOREOVER, THE
CULTURAL AND HISTORIC SPIRIT OF KRAKOW EVOKES ADMIRATION
AMONG AMERICAN SOF ALL NATIONAL BACKGROUNDS. KRAKOW PRESIDED OVER
THE ZENITH OF THE POLISH RENAISSANCE IN THE 15TH AND 16TH CEN-
TURIES, A PROFUSION OF SCIENCE, CULTURE, AND TRADE WHICH BENEFITED
EUROPE AND THE ENTIRE WORLD. IN THE DIFFICULT YEARS OF THE 19TH
CENTURY, KRAKOW AS A PRIMARY INSTRUMENT OF PRESERVING THE CULTURAL
FOUNDATIONS AND DIGNITY OF THE POLISH NATION. AND IN KRAKOW, THE
PATRIOT WHOM OUR TWO NATIONS SHARE, TADEUSZ KOSCIUSZKO,
LAUNCHED HIS HEROIC STRUGGLE FOR POLISH FREEDOM.

FOURTUNATELY, KRAKOW WAS SPARED THE PHYSICAL DESTRUCTION OF WORLD
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WAR II. IT THEREFORE REMAINS A LIVING SYMBOL OF POLAND'S

HISTORIC GREATNESS AND TRADITION. ITS SURVIVAL IS AN ENDURING MONUMENT TO THE LEGENDARY DETERMINATION OF POLES TO PRESERVE THEIR NATIONAL HERITAGE AMIDST RECURRENT AND OVERWHELMING ADVERSITY. THIS IS A SPIRIT OF FREEDOM WHICH WE AMERICANS, IN PARTICULAR, ADMIRE AND WITH WHICH WE CAN IDENTIFY OUR OWN TWO CENTURIES OF STRUGGLE TO BE A FREE AND INDEPENDENT NATION. AS PRESIDENT NIXON OBSERVED IN WARSAW TWO YEARS AGO, "AMERICA KNOWS, THE WORLD KNOWS, THE FORTITUDE, THE CHARACTER AND THE COURAGE OF THE POLISH PEOPLE." THE OPENING OF THE AMERICAN CONSULATE IS NOT ONLY A TRIBUTE TO KRAKOW'S HISTORIC SYMBOLISM, BUT ALSO TO THE CONTEMPORARY DYNAMISM IN POLISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS. THE QUICKENING TEMPO OF CULTURAL, TRADE, AND PERSONAL CONTACTS BETWEEN OUR TWO NATIONS WILL BE FURTHER ADVANCED BY THIS CONSULATE. THE THRIVING INDUSTRIAL AREA OF SOUTHWESTERN POLAND INVITES FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES. THE LIVELY CULTURAL COMMUNITY OF KRAKOW CAN BE AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN MUTUALLY REWARDING INTERCOURSE WITH THE ARTISTS, SCHOLARS, AND STUDENTS OF OUR OWN COUNTRY. THE PERVASIVE FAMILY TIES LINKING THIS REGION WITH THE UNITED STATES CAN BE THE SOURCE OF INCREASING PERSONAL CONTACTS BETWEEN THE PEOPLES OF OUR TWO NATIONS. BUT THE NEW CONSULATE IS ALSO AN AFFIRMATION OF THE CHANGING POLITICAL CLIMATE IN EUROPE AND THE WORLD. CONFLICT BETWEEN DIFFERENT SOCIAL SYSTEMS IS BEING REPLACED BY COOPERATION IN MANY FIELDS. THE IMPROVING RELATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES AND POLAND CAN SERVE AS A MODEL OF MUTUAL RESPECT WHICH CAN BE ACHIEVED REGARDLESS OF A COUNTRY'S PHYSICAL SIZE OR POLITICAL SYSTEM. THE FUTURE COURSE OF PEACE IN THE WORLD WILL DEPEND ON BROADENING THESE NEW RELATIONSHIPS OF COOPERATION, UNDERSTANDING, AND RESPECT AMONG ALL NATIONS. THE AMERICAN CONSULATE AT KRAKOW IS A NEW INITIATIVE IN THAT SEARCH FOR A LASTING AND JUST PEACE, TO WHICH THE DEEPENING RELATIONS OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES CAN MAKE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION. I THEREFORE HAVE THE HONOR TO DECLARE OFFICIALLY THAT THE AMERICAN CONSULATE IN KRAKOW IS NOW OPEN. END TEXT.

DAVIES

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KRAKOW, FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC MISSION OPENING, CONSULATES, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974WARSAW04111
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740190-0489
From: WARSAW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740743/aaaabkxl.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 MAR 2002 by thomasv0>; APPROVED <21 JAN 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KRAKOW OPENING USIA FOR IEE
TAGS: SCUL, PFOR, PL, (TOWER, JOHN G)
To: USIA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005